PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket: 2512CON2 (203-2719CON2)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S)

:

Helmut L. Kayan, et al.

SERIAL NO.

:

Not Yet Known

FILED

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Herewith

FOR

:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR

SURGICAL FASTENING

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 29, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

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Dated: October 29, 2003